

## Arizona Elder Abuse Awareness Day Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse designated June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in 2006, in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action, to recognize the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue; and

**WHEREAS**, the world is undergoing significant demographic changes. Estimates indicate that by 2050, the global population of people above the age of 60 will exceed the number of younger people, which is referred to as the age wave as a result of baby boomers aging; and

**WHEREAS**, elder abuse is an ever-increasing problem that crosses all socioeconomic boundaries with lasting physical, emotional, financial, and behavioral effects on victims and financial and moral costs for our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, preventing abuse of older adults through maintaining and improving social supports like senior centers, human services and transportation will allow everyone to continue to live as independently as possible and contribute to the life and vibrancy of Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) and the Arizona Department of Economic Security recognize the importance of taking action to raise awareness, prevent and address elder abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Department of Economic Security's Aging and Adult Services Division offers a statewide Adult Protective Services Program to simplify access to services and support that help protect vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and help them live as independently as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, In State Fiscal Year 2017, Adult Protective Services Central Intake Unit received 8,361 reports for individuals 65 years and older; and

**WHEREAS**, Arizona values its seniors and appreciates their contributions as leaders, mentors, volunteers, and important members of this community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2018, as

ARIZONA ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY